



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
*1102 SE Quince Street • PO Box 47990
Olympia, Washington 98504-7990*

February 21, 2001

The Honorable Carolyn Edmonds
Washington State House of Representatives
305 John L. O'Brien Building
Post Office Box 40600
Olympia Washington 98504-0600

Dear Representative Edmonds:

I want to thank you for working with the State Board of Health and the Department of Health to resolve concerns we had with Section 17 of House Bill 1320 and Senate Bill 5521, which relates to food handling practices in Adult Family Homes. I also want to thank you and the House Health Care Committee for considering the amendment to this section, as you discussed with the Board's Executive Director, Don Sloma yesterday.

I trust that you understand the Board's interest in assuring that Adult Family Home workers are getting appropriate training on basic food handling practices in order to protect the health and safety of Adult Family Home residents. The proposed amendment to House Bill 1320 will ensure that workers in Adult Family Homes get adequate food handler training (pursuant to 69.09 RCW) through the already required Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) education program. Incorporating the Board's required 30 minutes of interactive food handler training into an already existing DSHS training program minimizes any duplication of effort while continuing to provide workers with the necessary food handler education that will encourage the best protection against food-borne illness in Adult Family Homes.

Thank you again for your work on this important public health issue.

Sincerely,

Carl Osaki
Member

cc: Health Care Committee Members
Ms. Ree Sailors, Governor's Office of Health Policy
Ms. Jan Olmstead, Health Care Authority
Mr. Dave Knutson, House Committee Services
Ms. Patty Hayes, Department of Health
Mr. David Gifford, Department of Health
Ms. Jennifer Tebaldi, Department of Health
Mr. Bill White, Department of Health
Washington State Board of Health Members
Ms. Janice Englehart, State Board of Health
Mr. Don Sloma, State Board of Health